

# FRANCE YIELDS ON NAVY DEMANDS; BRIAND ACCEPTS U. S. PROPOSAL; 5-POWER ARMS TREATY EXPECTED

## Premier Authorizes Harvey to Inform Government.

### PARIS LIKELY TO SAY MORE ON QUESTION

#### Interprets Action of Briand As Accepting Plan in Principle.

LONDON, December 19.—(By the Associated Press.)—Premier Briand today authorized Secretary Hughes to inform the government of his views on the question of the proposed five-power arms treaty. The French delegation in Washington, which has been in session since last night, has authorized the ambassador to inform the American government of his views on the question of the proposed five-power arms treaty. The French delegation in Washington, which has been in session since last night, has authorized the ambassador to inform the American government of his views on the question of the proposed five-power arms treaty.

## MESSAGE FROM LONDON TO SECRETARY HUGHES SAYS PARIS WILL YIELD

By the Associated Press.  
Secretary Hughes was understood today to have received a cablegram from London stating that, as a result of conferences between Premier Briand of France and George Harvey, American ambassador, France was expected to accept the American proposal for limitation of capital ships for France and Italy. The French acceptance, it was reported, was on a tonnage, and not a ratio, basis.

## FRENCH MYSTIFIED AT LONDON REPORT

### Delegates Here Unable to Understand Reported At- titude of Briand.

By the Associated Press.  
An atmosphere of complete mystification enveloped headquarters of the French delegation today as the plenipotentiaries waited for their experts to decipher a long cablegram from Premier Briand.

## ACCEPT "IN PRINCIPLE"

### French Declare No Ratio Is Fixed in Agreement.

PARIS, December 19.—A dispatch from London to the semi-official Havas agency today said that Premier Briand had informed Ambassador Harvey, in London, that France accepted Secretary Hughes' proposals concerning capital ship tonnage as follows: United States, 35,000 tons; Japan, 20,000 tons; Great Britain, 20,000 tons; France, 17,000 tons; Italy, 16,000 tons.

## RETAINS SUBMARINE STAND.

Minister of Marine Cautious in saying that Premier Briand, since reaching London, had expressed a desire that France adopt the American position on the question of capital ship tonnage, but that no figure was laid down. "Any information on this question," Mr. Cautious was quoted as saying, "would be premature and inexact."

## SENATOR KING WRAPS U. S. PENSION PLAN

### Dr. O. H. Tittmann Is Granted \$150 a Month for Life After Lively Debate.

A scathing attack on the civil service generally and the pension system for the civil and military in particular was delivered in the Senate this afternoon by Senator King of Utah. The Senate was considering a bill, which was finally passed, granting Dr. O. H. Tittmann, former head of the coast and geodetic survey here, a pension of \$150 a month during the remainder of his life.

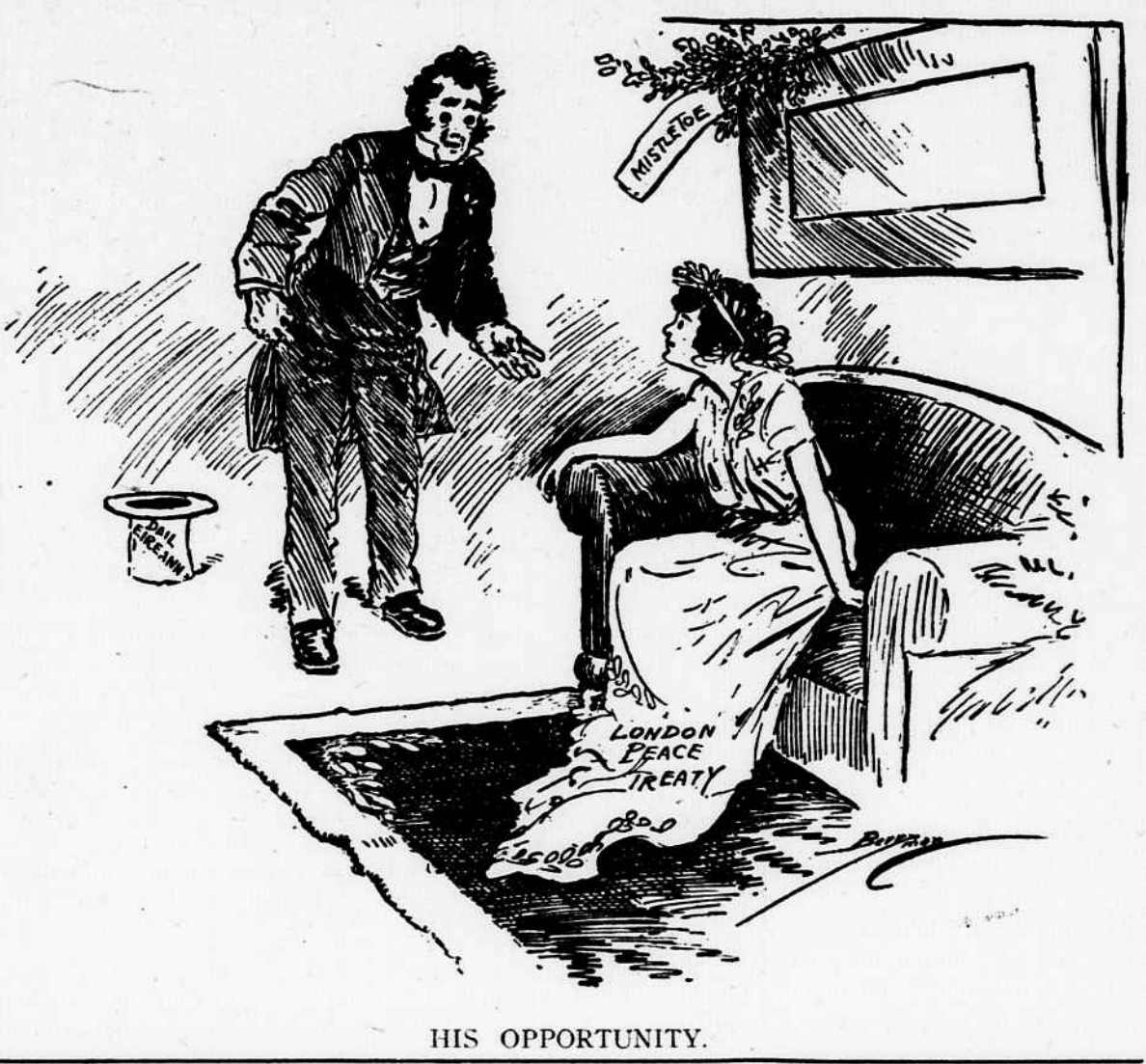
## EXPRESS WAR TAX ENDS.

### After January 1 Shippers Will Save \$1,500,000 a Month.

NEW YORK, December 19.—Elimination of the war tax on express shipments, effective January 1, will result in a saving of \$1,500,000 a month for users of this service, G. C. Taylor, president of the American Express Company, declared in a statement here.

## Today's News in Brief

Submarine looms as next arms conference issue. Page 1  
French delegates here mystified at London report. Page 1  
Secretary Wallace emphasizes depression in agriculture. Page 1  
Rejection and acceptance of Anglo-Irish treaty urged at daily public session. Page 1  
Volcanoes spread vast clouds of dust. Page 2  
Rumored Wall street bomb plot fails to materialize. Page 2  
Fire destroys four hangers at Langley field. Page 4  
F. H. Smith Company to erect million-dollar office building at \$15-\$17 a foot. Page 4  
Labor Board to consider protest of employees against letting contracts for railroad work to outside shops. Page 13  
\$1,000,000 damage by gale at Buffalo. Page 13  
Commissioner of pensions urges changes in operation of civil service pension act. Page 13  
Women plan New Year ball in aid of Children's Country Home. Page 13



## SUBMARINE NEXT CONFERENCE ISSUE

### Settlement of Capital-Ship Problem Near, With Ex- pected Modifications.

BY G. GOULD LINCOLN.  
With the indications today that France will considerably modify her demands for capital ships under the proposed plan for the limitation of naval armament, and that this phase of the Washington conference will be successfully passed within a few days at the most, the submarine looms up as the coming center of attention.

## RESIST RENT CHARGES.

### American Employes Will Seek to Have Collection Restrained.

PANAMA, December 19.—American employes of the Panama canal and the Panama railroad have decided to resist legal action in the Canal Zone district court in an attempt to restrain the government authorities from collecting rent charges which would become effective January 1 under an order issued by President Harding last week. This decision was reached at a meeting of the Canal Metal Trades Council last night.

## BRIAND CLOSETED WITH LLOYD GEORGE

### Premiers Meet in London to Discuss Europe's Financial and Economic Situation.

By the Associated Press.  
LONDON, December 19.—Premier Briand of France went into conference with Prime Minister Lloyd George at the latter's official residence in Downing street this morning. It was expected that German reparations would be the first question considered, but the newspapers declare the conversations may develop a comprehensive discussion of the European financial and economic situation.

## OTHERS SHARE DISCUSSION.

M. Briand was accompanied into the conference by Louis P. Loucheur, minister of liberated regions; Philippe Berthelot, general secretary of the French foreign office, and Prof. Paul Mantoux, who was one of the interpreters at the Versailles peace conference.

## WILL RATIFY U. S. TREATY.

### Colombian Congress Expected to Adopt Pact This Week.

BOGOTA, Colombia, December 18.—The Colombian congress is expected to ratify the treaty between the United States and Colombia during the present week. Last week numerous addresses were made in the assembly in favor of the treaty, notably by Foreign Minister Herrera.

## HEARTLESS BANDITS IGNORE PLEA TO PASS UP XMAS FUND FOR POOR

By the Associated Press.  
CHICAGO, December 19.—Two Chicago bandits who don't believe in Santa Claus today have their "possession" \$490 that had been raised to provide Christmas cheer for needy families of South Chicago.

## WILL SEND BILL BACK.

### House Expected to Grant Senate's Plea on D. C. Measure.

The House late this afternoon will take action to return to the Senate the bill changing the fiscal relations between the District and federal governments. The Senate has asked that this bill be returned. To take such action in the House requires either unanimous consent or a special rule, but it is probable that the bill be sent back today.

## TREATY DENOUNCED BY DE VALERA, WHO DRAWS NEW PACT

### Disclosures Show Leader Of- fered Own Terms at Daily Secret Session.

#### EXCITEMENT IS INTENSE DURING PUBLIC DEBATE

"Every One With Scrap of Honor Is Going to Stand by Agreement," Griffith Declares.

## FARM DEPRESSION DECLARED SERIOUS

### Secretary Wallace States Agricultural Crisis Is Worst in U. S. History.

By the Associated Press.  
BOSTON, Mass., December 19.—The United States is passing through the most severe agricultural depression of its history, Secretary Wallace of the Agricultural Department declared in an address today before the Boston Chamber of Commerce. Asserting that prices of major farm crops were lower than at any time in the nation's experience, Secretary Wallace predicted that decreased production would result in prices "so high that city consumers will complain bitterly, for the farmer cannot continue to produce at a loss."

## TWO FATALLY SHOT IN STRIKE CLASH

### Deputy Sheriff and Sympa- thizer With Packers' Em- ployes Die of Wounds.

By the Associated Press.  
SIOUX CITY, Iowa, December 19.—Deputy Sheriff Lewis H. Jones, twenty-two, son of Sheriff W. H. Jones, and Hassen Kaled, a strike sympathizer, were fatally wounded in a gun fight early today. They died in a hospital.

## WATER-POWER NEED OF D. C. DETAILLED

### Secretary Weeks in Transmittal to Congress Today the First Annual Report of the Federal Power Commission In- cluded a Report on the Investigation of the Practicability and Desirability of Developing Water Power at Great Falls to Supply the Needs of the Na- tional Capital and to Furnish the Na- tional Capital with an Adequate Water Supply.

## MRS. KIRBY CONVICTED IN MANSLAUGHTER CASE

ADRIAN, Mich., December 19.—Mrs. Matie Kirby, prominent state temperance worker, accused of manslaughter in connection with the disappearance of her nameless grandchild, was convicted in circuit court here today. The jury reached its verdict early Saturday evening, but upon instruction of Judge Burton L. Hart the finding was sealed and withheld until court opened this morning.

## CRUSKOG CRITICALLY ILL.

MUSKOGEE, Okla., December 19.—Eldred Croker, former Tammany chief, is at the point of death at his home, Glencarn Castle, near Dublin, according to a cablegram received today by the Muskogee Times-Democrat, from Mrs. Croker, a former Muskogee woman.

## DE VALERA FLAYS TREATY.

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